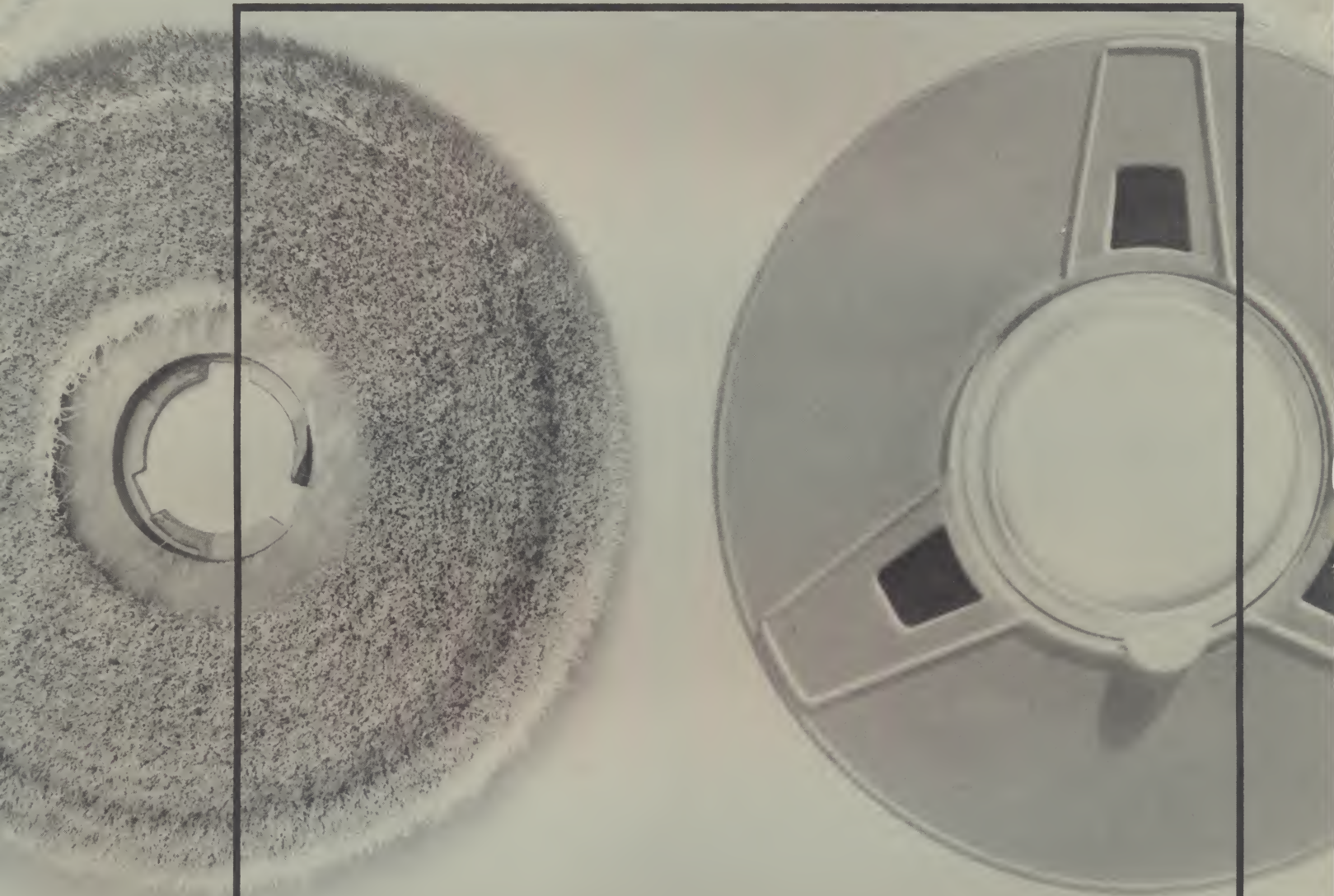


**A FLOOR MAINTENANCE
GUIDE FOR PEDESTAL
AND COMPUTER FLOOR AREAS**



WORLD'S LEADER IN
THE MANUFACTURE OF
FLOORS AND FLOOR PRODUCTS

THE ARMSTRONG COMPUTER FLOOR MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

**For all types of resilient
floor materials**

A computer floor needs special care

Computers and related electronic instruments are sensitive pieces of equipment. The environment which surrounds them—the room, the floor, the air—can directly affect their performance and operating efficiency. Thus it is important that the surface upon which they rest, whether a normal floor or a pedestal (or elevated) floor system, be carefully selected and maintained to meet the special needs of such equipment.

All resilient materials recommended by Armstrong for pedestal floors are well suited to meet the quality and maintenance demands of computer installations. They include Linotile®—the top performer for durability and ease of maintenance—vinyl-asbestos, and homogeneous vinyl. The Armstrong Computer Floor Maintenance System applied to these materials will keep them properly maintained for years of excellent service.

Special maintenance requirements

When maintaining computer floor areas, keep these points in mind:

- 1 Do not use floor wax or other finishes which can powder under traffic.
- 2 Do not use steel wool, no matter what the quality.
- 3 Do not use lint-producing mops or polishing pads.
- 4 Avoid use of cleaners containing ammonia or chlorine.
- 5 Keep direct application of water at an absolute minimum.

Any of these materials can be harmful to electronic equipment or wiring connections. Note that the term "wax" is not meant to include quality liquid emulsion commercial floor finishes. These finishes, such as Armstrong C-415 Commercial Buffable Floor Finish, will not result in wax flaking or powdering when used according to instructions.

Recommended maintenance procedure—Spray-Buffing exclusively

The spray-buffing technique has proven the most satisfactory means of safe, effective, and practical maintenance for computer floor areas. With this method, it is not necessary to clean floors and apply polish in the usual manner. By spray-buffing, light soil and any black marks will be removed and a small amount of polish applied each time.

Cleaning and Finishing: Use a spray-buffing material according to the manufacturer's directions, or dilute a good semi-buffable or buffable commercial floor finish (Armstrong C-415) with an equal amount of water. A small amount of a good commercial cleaner (Armstrong C-410) may be added to the solution to aid in soil removal. Spray the

mixture on the floor using a nozzle adjusted so that a fine spray is dispensed. The spray applicator may vary from a special attachment for the buffer to a simple household hand sprayer. Then, while the polish is still wet, buff to dryness with a fine grade, synthetic polishing pad or a soft brush under a power machine. Turn the pad frequently or replace with a clean one to prevent redeposition of dirt onto the floor. Do one area of the floor at a time, feathering in adjoining areas. After completing the entire floor, vacuum or use a treated mop to take up any dust or dirt left by the spray-buffing.

Maintenance: Between spray-buffing applications, the floor should be vacuumed daily to pick up loose dirt and dust particles. A properly treated non-linting mop can also be used. Spray-buff as often as necessary, usually weekly, to maintain a perfect finish.

New Floors: All new floors should be well cleaned prior to finishing of any sort. In addition, it is also advisable to initially seal the more porous types of tile, such as vinyl-asbestos. A good procedure is to clean the tile and apply two coats of finish according to one of the alternate methods below. Less porous products such as homogeneous vinyl or Linotile do not require the sealing treatment.

Older Floors: An older floor which has been badly soiled through neglect or heavy use must also be carefully prepared prior to beginning a spray-buffing system. Use the alternate cleaning method, being very careful to thoroughly remove all traces of old wax and dirt, then proceed as with a new floor.

Important: Spray-buffing must be conscientiously applied on a periodic and frequent basis. If the floor becomes excessively soiled,

or if the system is neglected, thoroughly clean and finish the floor using the alternate methods below, then resume your spray-buffing program.

Alternate maintenance procedures— separate cleaning, finishing operations

If your floor is in an area of unusually heavy traffic, it may be difficult to maintain a satisfactory floor condition using only the spray-buffing technique. If such is the case, the following procedures are recommended:

Cleaning (Using standard floor maintenance equipment): Apply a small amount of good commercial floor cleaner (Armstrong C-410), diluted according to manufacturer's directions, with a sprayer or a mop that has been wrung out with a squeeze-type wringer. With pedestal floors, spray application is preferable to avoid solution seeping between the individual panels. Next, scrub the floor with a fine grade, synthetic polishing pad used under a power machine. Take up the spent cleaner with a mop or a wet vacuum. Rinse the floor with a fairly dry mop and let the floor dry thoroughly.

Cleaning (Using automatic floor maintenance equipment): Apply a small amount of commercial floor cleaner (Armstrong C-410), diluted according to manufacturer's directions, with an automatic floor maintenance machine. Make certain that the machine is set to dispense the smallest amount of cleaning solution necessary to do the job, in order to prevent seeping between panels. Use a fine grade synthetic polishing pad or a suitable brush. The machine will loosen soil, pick up the spent solution, and dry the floor in one operation.

Finishing: Apply a thin coat of heavy-duty commercial floor finish (Armstrong C-405

or C-415) with a mop by dipping the mop in the finish and squeezing out the excess liquid with a squeeze-type wringer. Mop on the finish using a side-to-side motion, turning the mop frequently. Repeat this process until the entire area is covered with a thin film of polish. When dry, apply a second coat in the same manner if required.

Maintenance: The floor should be vacuumed regularly to pick up loose dirt and dust particles. A properly treated non-linting mop can also be used. When traffic areas show soiling, black marking, or wearing, spray-buff to clean and restore the finish. When spray-buffing no longer satisfactorily restores the floor finish, repeat the entire cleaning and finishing process.

Other areas of concern

Floor Protectors Recommended: The use of hard rubber or aluminum cups beneath the legs of heavy computer equipment will prolong the life of any resilient floor. They will help prevent permanent indentation damage by spreading the concentrated weight of the computer over a larger area. The size of cups or floor protectors used must be calculated on the basis of the dimensions of the cups, the weight of the computer, and the pounds per square inch load limits of the particular floor being used.

Moving Heavy Equipment: When rolling computers into place over resilient floors, some form of protection should be taken to prevent dynamic load damage to the tiles. A sheet of plywood or similar material, laid down in the path of the moving equipment, will help distribute the weight of the machine.



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